

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of HIRATA

Application No. To be assigned

Examiner:

Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit: 2856

Customer No. 30448

For: FILTERING MEMBER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the Duty to Disclose under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the references cited on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner for independent evaluation. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of forms PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

A copy of each foreign reference is enclosed, along with an English language abstract where available. A copy of the International Search Report for PCT application PCT/JP2005/001969 (for which the present application forms the national phase) is also enclosed, which satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of foreign language references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Certification

This Statement is being filed prior to the issuance of the first Office Action for the present application, and this paper is thus submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

In view of the above certification, a fee is not required for consideration of this document. Nevertheless, should a fee be deemed to be due by the Commissioner, such fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Dated: 8/8/06

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No. 2000-35

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	To be assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	HIRATA
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2000-35

Sheet	1	of	1
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁶ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		JP 2001-171472	06-26-2001	FUJI FILTER KOGYO KK		
		JP 2001-171473	06-26-2001	NIPPON KOKI CO LTD		
		JP 2001-301561	10-31-2001	CHUO SPRING CO LTD		
		JP 2001-315611	11-13-2001	DAICEL CHEM IND LTD		
		JP 2002-306914	10-22-2002	FUJI FILTER KOGYO KK		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.